

September 28, 2008

County Executive Isiah Legget  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Support for EMS fee

Dear County Executive Isiah Leggett:

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of EMS fees in Montgomery County. As a grassroots organization that represents the immigrant community, CASA de Maryland has as a priority the safety and well being of its constituents.

CASA de Maryland is a community organization that was founded in 1985 by Central American refugees and North Americans. Largely recognized as Maryland's largest Latino-based service and advocacy organization, CASA has evolved from focusing primarily on direct service provision for Central American refugees to providing a range of activities that address the conditions of poverty affecting many Latino and African immigrants in metropolitan Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. CASA's mission is to work with the community to improve the quality of life and promote equal treatment and full access to resources and opportunities for low-income Latinos and their families.

CASA supports the EMS fees for the following reasons:

First, the EMS fee will strengthen our Fire Rescue Service and save lives. Moreover, the transport fee will be good for immigrants and provide more resources for the fire rescue service. Service and caring for the injured are also the fire rescue service's main priorities. Finally, Montgomery County is working to reach out to the community to educate them about the benefits of an Emergency transport fee.

Please feel free to contact me at any time, at 301.996.0442 cell.

Sincerely,



Gustavo Torres, Executive Director

cc: Patrick Lacefield

